

John Dowling House
Galena, Illinois

J. D. Darness Co

HABS 26-14

HABS

ILL,

43 GALA,

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Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

District No. 26.

Historic American Buildings Survey
Earl H. Reed, Jr. District Officer
Room 404, No. 520 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

JOHN DOWLING HOUSE
JO DAVIESS COUNTY
GALENA, ILLINOIS

120-BENCH STREET

DISTRICT NO. 26.
NORTHERN ILLINOIS

EARL H. REED JR.
DISTRICT OFFICER

Project No. 26-14

By H.B. McEldowney

SOURCE

Florence
Gratiot
Bale's
"Historic
Galena"

In 1847 John Dowling built this old mansion on ground that was within the stockade and was a part of the fort that was erected during the Blackhawk war. The architect and builder of this house are not known.

The column caps and other woodwork in this splendid example of Southern Classic design were brought up the river from St. Louis by boat.

Young Mrs. Dowling was a bride of a few months when she came north from St. Louis, bringing her negro servants with her. Her new home was planned after the prevailing style of the French Southern city that had been her girl-hood home. This building was in the Dowling family for many years and for the last thirty years it has been the home of the Chamberlins, Gratiots and Bales, successively, representing three generations, grandmother, mother and daughter.

The old front door with sidelights has been removed as well as a plaster cornice in the drawing room. The house has been remodeled into a two family dwelling and is still owned by the Bale family.

Mrs. Florence Gratiot Bale is now living in Waukegan, Illinois.

March 15, 1934

By H.B. McEldowney
Approved Earl H. Reed Jr.

Reviewed 1936 by H.C.F.